

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-30 are all the claims presently pending in this application. Claims 1-30 have been amended to more particularly define the claimed invention.

It is noted that the amendments are made only to more particularly define the invention in accordance with local practice and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, for narrowing the scope of the claims, or for any reason related to a statutory requirement for patentability. It is further noted that, notwithstanding any claim amendments made herein, Applicant's intent is to encompass equivalents of all claim elements, even if amended herein or later during prosecution.

Claims 1-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Rosen, U.S. Pat. No. 5,557,518.

This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the following discussion.

**I. APPLICANT'S CLAIMED INVENTION**

The claimed invention as defined, for example, by independent claim 1, (and similarly independent claims 8, 15 and 23), is directed to a transaction mediation system in which a pay side system and a receiving side system are connected to each other through a mediation processing system, the mediation processing system including, means for obtaining transaction information sent from the pay side system, means for preparing transaction identification information without including personal information in the pay side system based on the transaction information, means for sending the transaction identification information to the receiving side system, means for obtaining request information prepared by

the receiving side system which has received the transaction identification information, means for preparing transaction permission confirmation information including specific items needed for a confirmation of transaction permission, based on the request information, means for sending the transaction permission confirmation information to the pay side system, means for obtaining transaction permission information sent from the pay side system which has received the transaction permission confirmation information, and means for determining to one of continue and cancel the transaction.

Conventionally, the conventional online shopping had problems that a transaction could not be conducted without communicating personal information from the purchaser who purchases merchandise or service to the seller, and that when a consumer purchases merchandise or service by margin trading using a credit card company or bank, the actual amount being transferred in the transaction with the distributor could not be confirmed before payment processing from information sources other than the distributor. (Application at page 3, lines 14-23).

The claimed invention (e.g., as recited in claims 1, 8, 15 and 23), on the other hand, includes means for preparing transaction permission confirmation information including specific items needed for the confirmation of transaction permission based on the request information. This feature of the invention is important to provide a transaction mediation system and a transaction mediation method capable of preventing the purchaser from conducting an unintended transaction by confirming the content of the transaction including a transaction amount to the purchaser before the transaction is processed, and performing payment processing after obtaining the purchaser's permission, (Application at page 6, lines 6-13).

## II. THE ALLEGED PRIOR ART REJECTION

### The 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) Rejection over Rosen, U.S. Pat. No. 5,557,518

The Examiner alleges that Rosen, U.S. Pat. No. 5,557,518, (Rosen), teaches the invention of claims 1-30.

Applicant submits, however, that Rosen does not teach or suggest, “*means for preparing transaction permission confirmation information including specific items needed for a confirmation of transaction permission, based on the request information,*” and

“*means for obtaining transaction permission information sent from said pay side system which has received the transaction permission confirmation information,*” as claimed in Applicant's independent claims 1, 8, 15 and 23.

The Examiner in the Non-Final Office Action alleges that Rosen teaches Applicant's claimed invention by merely citing the passages in Rosen located at: column 1, lines 60 to column 2, line 25; column 7, lines 5-20; column 10, lines 5-37; and, column 19, lines 40-60.

Rosen however teaches away from Applicant's claimed invention in that the merchant trusted agent delivers electronic merchandise to be provisionally retained by the customer trusted agent before the completion of the electronic transaction. Then the trusted agents, the merchant trusted agent and a customer trusted agent, participate in a secure dialogue and mutually agree on payment terms wherein thereafter the first money module transmits electronic money to the second money module.

According to one aspect of the invention, a customer trusted agent establishes a cryptographically secure session with a merchant trusted agent. The customer trusted agent securely communicates with a first money module, and the merchant trusted agent securely communicates with a second money module. The merchant trusted agent delivers electronic merchandise that is provisionally retained by the customer trusted agent. The trusted agents participate in a secure dialogue and mutually agree on the payment terms. The first money module transmits electronic money to the second money module.

Upon successful completion of the money module payment, the first money module informs the customer trusted agent, and the second money module informs the merchant trusted agent. The merchant then logs the sale and the customer may use the purchased electronic merchandise. (Emphasis added). (Rosen, at column 2, lines 12-25).

Therefore, Rosen clearly teaches that the merchant trusted agent and the customer trusted agent participate in a secure dialogue and mutually agree on payment terms to the transaction independent of any communication from the customer and/or the merchant.

Applicant's claimed invention states that *request information* is prepared and transmitted by the receiving side system to be received at the mediation processing system which prepares *transaction permission confirmation information to include specific items needed for a confirmation of transaction permission based on the request information.*

The *transaction permission confirmation information* is then transmitted to the pay side system which in turn responds to the transaction permission confirmation information with *transaction permission information* that is sent back to the mediation processing system.

Rosen fails to teach or suggest communication of *transaction permission confirmation information* between the merchant and the customer through either the customer trusted agent or the merchant trusted agent.

Additionally, Rosen fails to teach or suggest the customer *transmitting transaction permission information* through the customer trusted agent and/or the merchant trusted agent such that the customer trusted agent and/or the merchant trusted agent determines whether to proceed with the transaction.

Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw this rejection since the alleged prior art reference fails to teach or suggest each and every element and feature of Applicant's claimed invention.

### III. FORMAL MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

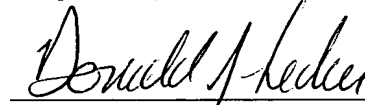
In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-30, all of the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

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Respectfully Submitted,



Donald J. Lecher, Esq.

Reg. No. 41,933

Sean M. McGinn, Esq.

Reg. No. 34,386

**McGinn Intellectual Property Law Group, PLLC**  
8321 Old Courthouse Rd., Suite 200  
Vienna, Virginia 22182  
(703) 761-4100  
**Customer No. 21254**